



The Girls Circle Project

Purpose

The Girls Circle Project is designed to train college women to facilitate Girls Circles in Columbus-area schools and agencies. A Girls Circle, made up of two college women co-facilitators and five to 10 young girls, is meant to both empower young girls and also to foster healthy relationships among them.

Impact

Since 2008, the Girls Circle Project has trained over 100 OSU college women to run approximately 105 Girls Circles and thereby impact approximately 750 girls' lives in the Columbus area. In 2012 - 2013, The Girls Circle Project partnered with 18 different greater Columbus public, private, and charter schools, as well as agencies, to positively reach numerous girls between the fourth and 12th grades.

The young girls report positive experiences in understanding their own identities, other cultures, and more healthy and open peer relations. The facilitators report increased confidence in public speaking and leadership skills; a greater understanding of diversity, social constructs, power, and privilege and how they affect our views and interactions in society; and the realization of how much of a difference they can make in a young girl's life.



Ohio State Colleges/Units Involved

Office of Student Life
Office of Economic Access
Women's, Sexuality, and Gender Studies
Education & Human Ecology
University Honors & Scholars

Community Partners Involved

Midnimo Cross Cultural Schools
KIPP Journey Academy
The Wellington School
Parkmoor Elementary
Arlington Park Elementary
New Albany Middle School
Hilliard Darby Elementary
St. Brendan School
Washington Elementary
Hamilton Local High School

Contact

Vicki Pitstick
Second-Year Transformational
Experience Program (STEP)
Faculty Program
Undergraduate Research Office
Pitstick.10@osu.edu
girlscircleproject.org.ohio-state.edu



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